

THE REALM OF FASHION.

The Best Gotham Society in Its Autumnal Array.

Elaborate Tea-Gowns from Parisian Designs—The Latest Fall Hats—The Regal for Turquoise Blue Trimmings—Mrs. Kendal's New Gowns.

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[Special Correspondence.]

New gowns, new bonnets, and one might almost add new faces—for many are so bronzed by the summer's outing—are beginning to strew our avenues and thoroughfares.

"Thick as autumnal leaves that strew the brooks in Vallombrosa."

and again it seems as if it had never been before, when autumn suggests warmth of color and richness of tone. In all that is new there is a decided touch of French grace and originality, and yet it is claimed that American women are not half as keen about French fashions as formerly, that they are growing more English in their



PAINTED HANDKERCHIEF.

dress every year. However, to dress well it is necessary to "feel the pulse of fashion," which means to know what French people are making and selling and wearing. Undoubtedly the aorta of the whole arterial system of fashion is located in Paris, and every pulse throb is felt throughout the universe.

To be fully convinced of this fact, one need only to pass behind the scenes of any of our large importing houses, and inspect the novelties from the leading Paris designers, and which can be designated by nothing less exalted than "creations."

Elaboration is carried out most extensively in tea-gowns or house-gowns, which are becoming more popular every day. They are so graceful and hide so many deficiencies. One beautiful example among a few fresh things that have just arrived, is a tea-gown rich as regards materials, but quite simple in shape. It is in old rose bengaline, and the front displays a pretty drapery of creamy lace gathered into a pointed band of gold embroidery at the waist. The bodice in front is fashioned after the manner of the zouave.

The zouave, like the poor, we have always with us; but it is so jaunty and becoming that it is difficult to let go easily.

Another pretty house-gown of Paris make is illustrated, and is most artistically draped in pale pink flowered silk, with crepe de chine front in Greek style, and revers of plain silk of a slightly deeper rose tint. This also lines the robe, and is again evident in



A MORNING GOWN.

the wide open sleeves, giving such an easy, comfortable aspect to the gown.

Our summer hats have played many parts, and their tumbled appearance bears testimony of the trying conditions of moist weather under which they have performed their duties. Out of respect to their departed freshness, we relegate them to the oblivion of their boxes, and let retrospection write the epitaph of their charms, while the bent of our energies is turned upon the new comers.

One of the latest models in hats, which we illustrate, is a shape that will be reproduced in felt and velvet, for it is particularly pretty and becoming. The crown of fancy spotted velvet is puffed and draped, then encircled by ribbon velvet, which, brought to the front, forms an upright bow, and from the back is brought down to form strings. *Struttes* not plumes are arranged at the back.

The quaint little hats, which resemble an inverted butter-ladle more than anything else, are becoming more and more popular. They are generally covered smoothly with velvet, edged with feather trimming, and a few birds or a bunch of small tips pose at the back. One little shape of brilliant red velvet is edged with black, and upon the front

brim is arranged a design in cut jet, while a jet dragon-fly nestles among "Prince of Wales" tips at the back.

Another is made of velvet in the new turquoise color, which is vivid and a most trying shade to the complexion in the daylight. However, it is charming for evening wraps, and should ever be combined with gold. A complete costume in this brilliant turquoise blue was recently imported from the house of Felix, Paris. One can always recognize the Felix costume, for it is complete with hat, muff and wrap to match. This one of turquoise habit cloth was trimmed elaborately with gold braid, and bordered with Kalinsky fur, which is a golden yellow. The hat was covered with yellow dressed kid, with turquoise trimmings, and the muff of kid was combined with the cloth, very odd in shape, and delicately perfumed with Italian orris powder. All fancy muffs are perfumed nowadays, and there is nothing more delicate for the purpose than Italian orris, which is less oppressive than the flower sachets.

Among the list of charming gowns which Mrs. Kendal has brought over for her American tour is an exquisitely pretty day dress in the new turquoise color. The material is crepe de chine, and the skirt is plain, save for a flounce around the hem. A zouave of gold and turquoise stones sets off the bodice, and there are high, puffed-up sleeves.

A fitting accompaniment to the new and dainty muffs are the showy embroidered mouchoirs of crepe lisse. They are in all possible shades and are embroidered on the edges in floral designs, like the one illustrated. Strong contrasts are the rule, such as a border of purple pansies on a nasturtium-pink center, heliotrope upon pale green, mignonette on old rose, and the like.

To look at the display of handkerchiefs upon the shop counters and in the establishments where they are made and sold as specialties, one is slow to realize that a century and a half ago a certain royal family possessed only two. There are also very beautiful white



AN AUTUMN HAT.

linen cambric handkerchiefs, with borders wrought in colors; but the elegant and thoroughly genteel pocket-handkerchief is either lace bordered or hand-embroidered in white.

It would be hard to improve upon the variety of exquisite materials already received for evening gowns. Beaded net, with broad stripes of velvet, is a novelty, but jeweled nets will be the most favored in the way of drapery this winter. Pretty gowns for young ladies will be made of *roie* in bright colors, with satin-striped borders such as we find on our gauze veils. They will simply be made over slips of silk to match in color. A girlish gown in white crepe is festooned around the hem with a wreath of white rose petals, and the bertha and sleeves are trimmed in the same way.

The newest model of a bridal gown made by a leading couturiere abroad, is simple in design yet exquisitely elegant. As usual with bodices, no fastening is visible; the train which follows full and gracefully, is hooked on to the corsage at the back, and the corsage in front is finished with a drapery of lace. The sleeves and Medici collar are also of lace, and a simple cluster of orange blossoms nestles at the throat—for the long sprays and chateaus of flowers are no longer the height of fashion. Two volants, or flounces of lace are headed with orange blossoms. The veil is arranged *not* to cover the face.

With gentlemen it is the fashion to wear less jewelry than formerly, which is a turn in the right direction.

The new grape jewelry recently introduced in London, is beautiful, and looks quite reasonable now. The fruit is beautifully modeled and colored and of the natural size. It doesn't look heavy or clumsy as one would suppose who hadn't seen it. A brooch consists of three or four green or purple grapes, and the stalk of the fruit is imitated in gold. There are watch chains and bracelets ornamented with the same fruit. Jewelers are trying to find a substitute for moonstones, as they have grown a trifle monotonous. One of the newest and most brilliant ornaments for fastening in the folds of an evening gown, is the "rising sun" in diamonds. The ultra-fashionable woman nowadays has diamonds for morning, diamonds for afternoon and diamonds for evening wear. A diamond coronet which may be converted into a necklace is a popular head ornament.

An imported novelty in fur is a stole-collared with flat box ends which reach to the feet. It is made of cinnamon bear fur, and is very elegant. *L'ETOILE.*

A JOKE THAT FAILED.

Newspaper Man (at a new place)—Well, John, are your eggs of the latest edition?

John (with asperity)—We never have no criticism on de eggs, sah.

Newspaper Man—So? If they are as fresh as you are they don't deserve any.—Judge.

A Modern Fable.

Wiggins—I see, Jack, that although the Trees are Leaving, your Winter Clothes are Not.

Poor Jack—No: I am one of the Ever Green, who have no Change in the Spring.—Texas Siftings.

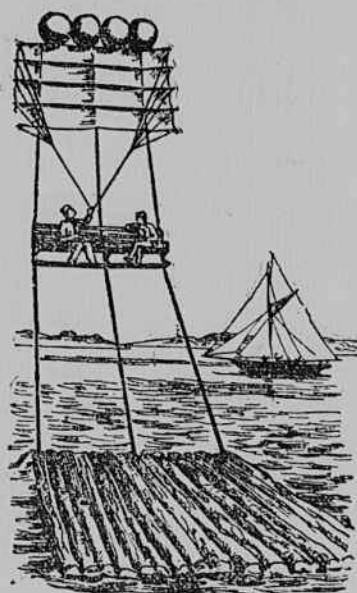
KITES OF TERRYTOWN.

An Enterprising Club of Kite Flyers, and Its Achievements.

How to Build a Big Kite—Remarkable Things the Kite Can Be Made to Do—A Strange Ride by Water—Photographing from the Clouds.

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[Special Correspondence.]

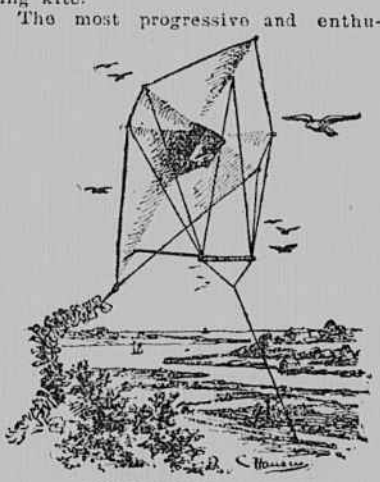
The history of the kite and the amusement to be obtained in flying it dates too far back for any definite opinion to be formed of its origin, or the primitive methods at first employed. We know that 1150 years before the birth of Christ the Chinese fired crackers and flew grotesque kites, and that is all. Every



DR. THAYER'S INVENTION.

man and boy knows what a kite is, and how to fly one; but few are aware of the extraordinary progress made in connection with the kite in recent years, and there may be some of the rising generation to whom the making of a kite is a sealed book, and who are too far away from a town to buy one to suit them. The secret of making one that will fly all lies in the balance. To make a big one, get some well seasoned ash and cut from it two good stout laths an inch broad, one quarter inch thick and three feet long. Cross them like the letter X, and across the joint lay another lath about two feet long and bind them firmly into place. Now run a stout cord from tip to tip all around the frame. All that remains to be done is to cover it with strong, thin paper.

In doing this mind that any seams are neatly joined, and extend right across the kite to keep the balance true. A seam on one side and not on the other will spoil it. Good flour paste is the best material for fastening the paper. The kite is now made and wants stringing. From the two top points, the two side points and the joint of the laths in the middle, run light cords, six feet in length, and knot them together; then attach the flying string to this. The tail, every one knows about. Also the fun to be had in cutting four-inch square pieces of writing paper, putting them on the lower part of the line, when the kite is in the air, and letting them run as "messengers" to the soaring kite.



PHOTOGRAPHIC KITE.

siastic kite-flyers in America are to be found in Terryville, Conn., and they have introduced a novel idea that will probably be tried elsewhere. The idea was evolved during the fall and winter of last year, and this spring it was successfully carried out. A. Andrews (captain), Arthur and Leon Bunnell, Wallace Cook and John H. Deiter joined themselves into a club called the A. B. C. Club, the name being formed of the initials of the members, and set about making a mammoth kite ten feet high.

They finished it, and taking it out, set the neighborhood stirring; members flocked in to join, full of ideas. Middle-town followed suit, and the craze has become general, a number of contests being arranged at various dates, the prizes to be awarded to the kites carrying up the most yards of string.

The Terryville boys are making great efforts to come in ahead, and have just finished a kite seventeen feet high, twelve feet wide, covered with fifty-four yards of canvas, and weighing fifty pounds. The tail is one hundred and forty feet long. The frame is bolted together with iron bolts and the canvas is attached to the frame on the hook-and-eye principle, so that it can be taken off and folded up for transportation. The cord is as thick as a clothes-line, it takes six members to "soar" the kite, and it is expected to run out two thousand feet of line when they get accustomed to handling it, and get the ballast right on the tail. At the trial trip it answered every expectation, and then a genius proposed some fun. A stiff breeze was blowing, and a light road-wagon was run out in which five young men seated themselves; the kite-ropes was attached, and the conveyance began to move over the roads at a very fair pace.

Another youth followed on the horse's back, and after a run of about six miles, they picked the kite up and drove back. It is now proposed to make a huge kite of material saturated or coated with asbestos, to render it fire-proof, and utilize it for the display of fire-works to be ignited by slow matches or fuse of various lengths. This is the biggest kite on record. The next largest one was that of Merchant William Harrah, of Bridgeport, whose kite was nine feet high and seven wide, and whose long, light tail extended for nearly half a mile. Last summer while he and a party of friends were at his cottage on the Connecticut shore he brought out his kite and flew it until one of the guests proposed to get into a light lady's dory that was dancing on water, and take a sail with the kite. Mr. Harrah agreed, got into the boat, passed the slack rope through the painter ring, and then, one by one, the people holding the rope on shore let go their hold, and in a second the boat was under way. Out into the sound they went, a man forward at the rope with a sharp knife to cut, in case of accidents, and so they ran across to Port Jefferson on Long Island; waiting there until the wind changed, and then returning.

M. A. Balut, of Eulauze, France, has invented a photographic kite, which consists of a small camera attached by means of a triangular support to the backbone of the kite. The camera is provided with an instantaneous shutter, operated by a slow method. This is lighted before the kite is sent up, and when combustion has proceeded a certain distance, it sets fire to a small thread, releasing the spring of the shutter, and an exposure is made. Another novel feature of this invention is the use of an aneroid barometer attached to the kite, so that the operator can tell to what height the kite ascended, and at which the exposure was made. The thread releasing the shutter of the camera also records the registered height, by means of the sun's rays striking the dial through an exposed hole and printing the shadow of two needles on the sensitized paper covering the dial. A piece of paper also flutters to the ground giving notice that an exposure has been made. The uses of this



MR. HARRAL'S KITE-Trip.

method in surveying and general geodesy are simply unlimited. The most original and unique idea, however, hails from Dr. David Thayer, of Boston, Mass., in which he uses the kite as a motor.

The one great fault in this respect has been the amount of power expended in keeping the kite in the air. Every boy knows that in a light wind the simple weight of the cord will reduce the "pull" of the kite to a minimum. This fact has made kite propulsion only satisfactory in a stiff breeze. Dr. Thayer has remedied this defect by means of a raft made to float on the sea, having three main guys of rope attached to one end. These are sustained in the air by means of small balloons filled with gas. Below these are a number of sails, made fairly rigid by bamboo attachments (like the sail of a Chinese junk). These are about three times as long as they are broad, and fitted at each end with a species of wing, a proper manipulation of which directs the course of the machine. The main guy ropes are about forty feet long, and midway between the raft and the sails and balloons, is located the passenger car.

The balloons are powerful enough to hold up the sails, car and passengers, and the wind, catching the sails, forces along the raft which floats on the water. When it is wished to direct the course to the right, the wings on that side are drawn round at right angles to the rest of the sails, and vice versa.

This idea is also intended to be used on land, substituting a wagon for the



THE TERRYVILLE BOYS' SPORT.

raft, and the invention provides for the wagon being carried on the raft when not in use. It will thus be seen that the long-neglected kite has, during the past year, risen to such a plane that its future development will be watched with interest. WILEY P. FOX.

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